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Docket No.: 048897-0025

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of | : | Customer Number: 20277 |
| DAVID T. ADAMS, et al. | : | Confirmation Number: 7577 |
| Application No.: 09/787,294 | : | Group Art Unit: 3624 |
| Filed: March 15, 2001 | : | Examiner: Weisberger, Richard C |

For: TECHNIQUES FOR TRADING COMMODITIES ON A PRIVATE TRADING SYSTEM
AND NOT REGULATED BY THE GOVERNMENT

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Noting the Office Action of April 5, 2006 wherein restriction has been required, Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, Group I (claims 1-62) for prosecution in the above-identified application. In making the restriction requirement, the Examiner holds that the inventions of Groups I-III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the reasons set forth on page 2 of the Action. While the Examiner's reasons set forth on page 2 of the Action detail specific differences between the groups of claims, Applicant submits that all claims are concerned with the trading in a market for a commodity and the claims differ only with respect to specific embodiments. Therefore, Applicant submits that there is in fact present a single general inventive concept within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.1. Accordingly, reconsideration of the requirement for restriction is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 5, 2006

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as our correspondence address.**